Deteriorating condition of handloom weavers due to competition from powerloom sector

†2575. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the state of handloom weavers have deteriorated due to the competition with the powerloom sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (c) Considering the inherent technological constraints in the handloom sector, the Government promulgated the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 under which 11 categories of textile articles are reserved for exclusive production by handlooms. In addition, the following steps have also been taken by the Government for the development and welfare of the handloom sector:—

- Training to handloom weavers to upgrade their skills;
- Comprehensive welfare measures for better working environment and social security of the Weavers;
- Effective support system in R and D design input, skill upgradation and market linkages;
- Implementation of the Hank Yarn Obligation Order so as to ensure adequate availability of yarn packed in hank form for use in handlooms; and
- Technological upgradation of Weavers Service Centres.

All these measures taken up by the Government are aimed at enabling the handloom sector to cope with the competition from other sectors.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.